

**EAST PROVIDENCE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT**  
**East Providence School Committee**  
**East Providence City Hall, 145 Taunton Avenue**  
**East Providence, Rhode Island 02914**

**August 14, 2012**

**Mr. Tsonos, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. School Committee members present: Luisa Abatecola, Stephen Furtado, Chrissy Rossi, Ryan Tellier, Charles Tsonos. Also present: Dr. John V. DeGoes, and Mr. Andrew Thomas, Esq.**

**The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and Moment of Silence were observed.**

**School Committee Chairman's Report – Mr. Tsonos introduced Dr. John DeGoes; a motion was made to approve the appointment of Dr. DeGoes as Interim Superintendent, seconded by Mr. Mr. Furtado. Vote 5-0.**

**Recognition and thanks to the former Interim Superintendent, Edward Daft by Mr. Tsonos.**

**Report on City of East Providence Budget Commission**

**Dr. DeGoes reported that the current budget is on track; with nothing unforeseen, we should be finishing the year with a balanced budget.**

**Mr. Tsonos reported that he, Mrs. Rossi, and Mr. Furtado attended the**

**Budget Commission meeting and that David Abbott, Deputy Commissioner from RIDE, attended to help advocate for the School Department; first time for that level of support from RIDE.**

**Public Comment I – Sheila Wildenhein, President of the EPTA stated that the teacher assistants were concerned about displacement and have not received notice three weeks before beginning of school; felt compelled to come before School Committee to help resolve this for her members. Dr. DeGoes will address the issue and respond to Ms.Wildenhein.**

**Golf Team Update - Coach McEnery reported that close to \$6800 has been raised to date through donations from the community and unless funds are added to the budget for the golf team in the future, it will need to be funded through donations. He hoped that in 2014-15 it will be added to budget. He thanked members of the community for their involvement.**

### **Interim Superintendent's Report**

**Building Committee/Facilities Report - Ed Catelli, Facilities Director, provided an overview of work to be completed over the summer; bonds to support the next phase of the project have not been approved yet. Renovations at the high school include removal of asbestos, air testing, new tiles, rehab of two computer labs; all should be completed by school opening. Additional projects include:**

**Energy conservation, a weatherization project, caulking, insulation, and a building management system computer controlled to adjust heat and ventilation. Also, replacement of pool windows will be**

**completed in about two weeks.**

**Administration – Attendance and Registration offices have been relocated to City Hall; other offices will be relocated in October. The Orlo playground work is expected to be completed in two to three weeks.**

**Discussion regarding the replacement of the Public Address system at the High School and Martin Middle School and doors at the elementary schools which need to be replaced; this issues need to be addressed right away.**

**Izilda Teves, Orlo Avenue School updated the School Committee regarding the playground project at Orlo; the playground structure will be constructed on September 21-23. Mrs. Rossi asked to update information on the website for volunteers.**

**Superintendent Approval – Motion by Mrs. Rossi to approve the appointment of Dr. John V. DeGoes as Interim Superintendent of Schools, effective August 6, 2012, seconded by Mrs. Abatecola. Vote 5-0.**

**Personnel Report on Retirements/Resignations/Leaves of Absence- Presented by the Superintendent and read by Mr. Furtado, Clerk:**

## **RETIREMENT**

**Elaine Namerow-ELL Teacher – Whiteknact-Effective 8/31/2012**

## **RESIGNATIONS**

**Samuel Conklin-Network Technician-District - Effective 08/14/2012**

**Thomas Galligan-Assistant Freshman Football Coach –  
EPHS-Effective 12/13 school year**

**Andre Rondeau -Pre Engineering Instructor – CTC-Effective  
09/01/2012**

**Judy Smith dePerla-English Dept Head-MMS-Effective 07/11/2012**

**Jose Estrella-Girls Assistant Soccer Coach-EPHS-Effective  
06/30/2012**

**Arthur Sherman-Physical Ed/Health/ Adaptive Phys Ed-EPHS  
Effective 07/25/2012**

**Caitlyn Ahrens-Spec Ed-Resource-EPHS-Effective 07/23/2012**

**Bobby Rathbone-Band Director-EPHS-Effective 08/07/2012**

**Ruth Dickinson - School Nurse/Teacher-Meadowcrest-Effective**

**08/08/2012**

**Melissa O'Neil - Reading Specialist-Oldham-Effective 12/13/ School Year**

## **LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

**Shane Messier - Assistant Football Coach – EPHS-Effective 12/13 School Year**

**Jill Jackson Fernandes- Librarian/media-Waddington-Effective 8-10-12**

**Opening of School 2012-13 – Dr. DeGoes requested that Mr. Raymond Linneman, Transportation Supervisor, report on status of transportation.**

**Academic Preparation – Beth Salzillo, Curriculum Coordinator provided an update on work done over the summer with teaching and learning as the focus. All administrators and personnel that evaluate teachers were required by RI Department of Education to attend educator evaluation training. Rebekah Gendron provided an overview of the training. The September 4th professional development day will focus on the evaluation system.**

**Consent Agenda**

**Approval of Minutes – Motion to table the minutes by Mrs. Rossi, seconded by Mr. Furtado.**

**Vote 5-0.**

**Finance Report- Dr. DeGoes advised that the budget seems to be on target; barring any unforeseen circumstances. Motion by Mrs. Rossi, seconded by Luisa Abatecola. Vote 5-0.**

### **Action Items**

**Personnel Appointments/Recalls-Motion by Mrs. Rossi to delay appointments at this time in order to discuss personnel items/issues in executive session, seconded by Mr. Tellier. Vote 5-0.**

### **Requisitions – Bill List**

#### **Warrant #**

<b>1240</b>	<b>7/23/12</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>26,578.64</b>
<b>1241</b>	<b>7/24/12</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>69,362.80</b>
<b>1242</b>	<b>7/24/12</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>55,372.29</b>
<b>1243</b>	<b>7/24/12</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>87,209.60</b>
<b>1244</b>	<b>7/24/12</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>56,561.26</b>
<b>1245</b>	<b>7/24/12</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,301,130.02</b>
<b>1246</b>	<b>7/24/12</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>302,759.92</b>

**Motion to approve by Mrs. Rossi, seconded by Mr. Tellier. Vote 5-0.**

**Requests for Home Schooling – Motion by Mrs. Rossi, seconded by**

**Mrs. Abatecola. Vote 5-0.**

**Request for Building Use – Little Rhody Aquatic Club- withdrawn**

**Procedures for Access to Public Records –Attorney Andrew Thomas advised the School Committee of a need to adopt a procedure for access to public records, as required by the Department of the Attorney General. After discussion, it was decided to place this on the next agenda for a second passage. Motion to approve by Mrs. Rossi, seconded by Mrs. Abatecola. Vote 5-0.**

**New Business - None**

**Public Comment II**

**Fred Ripka requested information on the status of the boiler at high school; if under warranty; are they being repaired. Mr. Catelli stated he is working with legal counsel; the boilers were installed about four years ago; contractors doing repairs; now the warranty period is up; was at a standstill with turnover in the Superintendent's Office. Mr. Silva, legal counsel, is working on this but could not comment on the litigation. Mr. Ripka asked why students at Hennessey School are not getting the curriculum they need to learn.**

**BJ DeCrescenzo, 55 Island Avenue asked questions about access to curriculum; will this be the policy for the district for students who come back from placements; inclusion, access to curriculum all the**

time;

She hoped that the School Committee and Superintendent believe in inclusion; should be no-n restrictive environment.

Dr. DeGoes responded that it is in good conscience to do it, the law requires we do it; one on one in extenuating circumstances; generally speaking that would be our goal; both he and the School Committee support that.

Anthony Ferreira-thought that replacing intercoms and doors would be more important than replacing the windows in the pool area; he asked who sets the priority on spending the money; schools belong to the city; what has been done about these problems; the public needs to know the conditions of the schools; the taxes went up but we can't lock the doors at schools.

Mr. Catelli explained there are two different bonds; one with Johnson Controls for energy saving issues and the other project includes \$500,000 for doors and PA systems; \$1 Million toward asbestos removal required by the Department of Health which is only 1/3 of that work which needs to be completed.

Jessica Beauchaine, Project 106, fundraising for Middle School Sports, stated there are many questions about sports being funded through the school budget.



**Dr. DeGoes stated that he supports Middle School sports; he does not know that answer; he heard that there was money left in this year's budget to begin the program but that there will not be funds in the next budget. Mrs. Rossi stated that in the BPR document, school sports are out; until the Budget commission approves it, there is no money for fall sports and parents have not been notified. Dr. DeGoes stated that is his responsibility to make sure parents is notified if no sports in September.**

**Eric Zollo, 165 Lyn near Pierce Field –commented that the only reason asbestos treatment at the high school is due to force by the state? There are children in those schools and School Committee is there for their best interest, not because it has to be done; we have been forced to take care of the problem; he is appalled; the concern should be the young people we should be protecting; what is purpose of electing anyone to office.**

**Mrs. Rossi stated that this has happened over twenty years and would have taken longer; we need about \$115 Million to fix the schools; air testing was done at the high school and there was no danger to students; she agreed this is an appalling situation, but the School Committee cannot control it**

**Kerry Verdone, Brightridge Avenue, stated that the time of Budget Commission meetings is not convenient for people who work during the day so it is difficult for people to know what is going on; she has**

**two kids with special needs, which should not be about the bottom line.**

**Dr. DeGoes explained that the issues are being addressed and parents will be notified.**

### **Announcements**

**Mrs. Rossi Project 106 fundraiser 9/9/12 - breakfast at American Legion from 9-12; tickets \$7.**

**Motion by Mr. Furtado that the Committee convene in Executive Session for purposes of discussing:**

**Personnel - R.I. Gen. Laws §42-46-5(a) (1; Collective Bargaining R.I. Gen. Laws §42-46-5(a) (2);**

**And Litigation/Pending Litigation -R.I. Gen. Laws §42-46-5(a)(2) seconded by Mrs. Rossi. Vote 5-0.**

**Return to Public Session – Motion by Mrs. Rossi to open session and to seal the minutes of the executive session, seconded by Mrs. Abatecola. Vote 5-0.**

**Report Executive Session Votes - None**

### **Personnel Appointments**

**Kimberly Laliberte-Principal-Oldham Elementary School-Effective**

**08/28/2012**

**Andrea          Ridlon-Jarmie-School          Nurse/Teacher-TBD-Effective  
09/04/2012**

**Karen Mangone-ELL Teacher-TBD-Effective 09/04/2012**

**Linda Leonard-Math Teacher-MMS-Effective 09/04/2012**

**Nicole Henault-Math Teacher-MMS-Effective 09/04/2012**

**Jenna Mendonsa-Math Teacher-RMS-Effective 09/04/2012**

**Lori Kiley-Garcia-English-EPHS from 3/5 to 5/5-Effective 09/04/2012**

**Susan Abdow-From 3/5 Private School Nurse to 5/5 School  
Nurse-TBD Effective 09/04/2012**

**Michael Silva-Social Studies Department Head-EPHS-Effective  
2012/2013 School Year**

**Matthew Tsonos-Physical Education Department Head-EPHS (1 year)  
-Effective 2012/2013 School Year**

**Karen Cardillo-Business Department Head-EPHS-Effective 2012/2013  
School Year**

**Kelley Richardson-English Department Head-MMS-Effective  
2012/2013 School Year**

**Maryanne Costa-Secretary-Oldham Elementary-Effective 08/28/2012**

**Stacy Bentz-Secretary-RMS-Library-Effective 09/05/2012**

**Tracey Bradley-3/5 School Nurse-Private Schools-Effective 09/04/2012**

**Angelo Pizzi-Girls Soccer Coach-EPHS**

**Nicholas Shattuck- Assistant Girls Soccer Coach-EPHS**

**Leslie Eastwood-Girls Cross Country Coach-EPHS**

**Robert Duarte-Boys Cross Country Coach-EPHS**

**Bobbi Simon-Football Cheerleading Coach-EPHS Effective 2012/2013  
School Year**

## **RECALLS**

**Amanda Izzi Social Studies – EPHS-Effective 08/02/2012**

**Colleen Kinder-Teacher Assistant-TBD-Effective 8/10/2012**

**Niurka Ferreira-Teacher Assistant-TBD-Effective 8/10/2012**

**Motion to approve by Mrs. Rossi, seconded by Mr. Tellier. Vote 5-0.**

**Motion to adjourn by Mr. Furtado, seconded by Mrs. Rossi. Vote 5-0.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Patricia A. Iannelli, Administrative Assistant**

**Stephen Furtado, Clerk of the Committee**